

United States Attorney's Office District of Columbia

Jeffrey A. Taylor United States Attorney

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 14, 2009

**USAO Public Affairs** 

(202) 514-6933

www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc

## Pennsylvania man pleads guilty to transporting and possessing child pornography

WASHINGTON -A 52-year-old resident of Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, Stanley Bobula, pled guilty today before the Honorable Ellen Huvelle in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to one count of Transportation of Child Pornography and one count of Possession of Child Pornography, announced U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor, Metropolitan Police Department Chief Cathy L. Lanier, and Joseph Persichini, Jr., Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office.

At sentencing, which is scheduled for August 11, 2009, Bobula faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years in prison, and a maximum sentence of 20 years of imprisonment, and a fine of \$250,000. Under sentencing guidelines, he faces a likely sentencing range of 121 to 151 months in prison.

According to the evidence outlined by the government at today's court proceeding, between January 5, 2009 and February 27, 2009, a member of the FBI/MPD Child Exploitation Task Force, who was operating undercover and posing as a pedophile, entered a pedophile fetish chat room. Within minutes, the defendant and the undercover began having a conversation about children. The defendant expressed his desire for incest, but didn't think his family thought the way he did. In response to the undercover officer's fictitious story that he was having sex with a 9-year-old girl, the defendant expressed his desire to have sex with the girl as well. Over the course of the chat, the defendant sent multiple still images of female children under 10 years old having sexual contact with adult males, and a video clip of children between the ages of 2 and 10 years old having sex with adults.

On March 2, 2009, the execution of a search warrant for the defendant's house and his computer, revealed that the defendant possessed more than 1000 images of female children under the age of 10 years old having sexual contact with adult males.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood and the Regional Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. In February 2006, the Attorney General created

Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorney's Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <a href="https://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/">www.projectsafechildhood.gov/</a>.

In announcing today's guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Taylor, MPD Chief Lanier, and FBI Assistant Director in Charge Persichini commended the outstanding investigative work of D.C. Metropolitan Police Detective Timothy Palchak. In addition, they commended the FBI special agent who assisted in the investigation, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Julieanne Himelstein, who prosecuted the case.

###